

**HOME FROM THE WAR**  
 Profik Matwani as Ruzzante.  
 Performances continue  
 this week at the  
 Mad River Festival.

# MAD RIVER

# UNION

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## Supervisors stay out of trophy hunt restrictions

**Daniel Mintz**  
 MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – Humboldt County's Fish and Game Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors oppose a state bill that would ban possession of trophy parts from "iconic" African animals – but supervisors have ignored the advice.

The bill's lack of effect on local residents motivated supervisors to do nothing except discuss the bill at their June 12 meeting.

Senate Bill 1487 – the Iconic African Species Protection Act – would ban the possession and importation of body parts of the iconic animals, including African elephants, lions, rhinos, zebras and hippos.

The bill sets fines of \$5,000 to \$40,000 as punishment for violations.

Phil Grunert, the commission's chair, said he's hunted in Africa several times and said each nation on the continent has its own hunting regulations. And he added that the animal parts that aren't used as trophies are put to good use.

"About 30 percent of the carcass of an animal that you harvest goes to a local tribe," he said, adding that in Africa, "The poverty is unbelievable – it is everywhere and roughly 30 percent of the animals that are harvested by the hunters go to these people that are within those districts."

Fortuna resident Jon Sapper, who assisted Grunert with drafting the proposed letter against the bill, said he's also visited Africa and described hunting trips as revenue providers for anti-poaching and conservation efforts.

Supervisor Mike Wilson said he can understand that argument but "it seems a bit colonial in its framework."

Wilson noted that the commission has requested that its budget be increased from \$3,000 to \$6,000 and questioned whether the issue is relevant to its purpose.

"If they brought the parts back, then it would be within the County of Humboldt," said Board Chair Ryan Sundberg.

Wilson laughed briefly. "That would be your interpretation," he said.

Supervisor Estelle Fennell said she can't support the letter, adding that "it's not about hunting, it's about trophies" and isn't "such big, burning issue in Humboldt County that I want to send a letter to the Senate."

Supervisor Rex Bohn, who sponsored the agenda item, said the bill is over-reaching and is being advanced for its sponsor's political gain.

"I just don't think it's very well-written," he said. "I kind of figure that they're playing on the feelings of 'Oh my God, we're going to kill all this stuff' and Senator (Henry) Stern is gonna be able to use it on his next campaign."

Sundberg said that his "default position" is to stay out of controversial issues that

HUNTING ❖ A3

## Voters to decide McKinley's fate



**Kevin L. Hoover**  
 MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – Arcata voters are going to decide the fate of the statue of William McKinley on the Plaza, not the Arcata City Council, now that the Humboldt County Office of Elections has completed verification of signatures on pro-statue petitions.

The City of Arcata was notified June 14 that the petition drive had obtained enough valid signatures to qualify for the Nov. 6 ballot. The "Petition for the Initiative to Prohibit

**MCKNEPTUNE** Just like in the olden days, the statue of William McKinley had a themed costume for the OysterFest – that of the Roman god Neptune, who rules over matters aquatic.

MAIT FILAR | UNION

the Modification and/or Destruction of the President William McKinley Statute and its base and/or the Relocation from its Historic Place in the Center of the Arcata Plaza" needed 954 signatures to qualify. Petitioners submitted 1,765 signatures for review and the county verified 1,426 of them as valid.

The next step comes at the City Council's July 11 meeting, which will include an agenda item for councilmembers to certify the result and either adopt the ordinance, which is unlikely, or refer it for ballot placement.

MCKINLEY ❖ A3



**Michael Winkler**



## THE DAY OF THE OYSTER



**OYSTERFESTERING** Arcata Main Street's 28th Annual Arcata Bay Oyster Festival saw slurping, guzzling, dancing and relaxation last Saturday on the Plaza. Left, attendees made merry in their own ways. PHOTOS BY MAIT FILAR & KLH | UNION



## Beer dispute has Arcata Main Street, local brewers in a froth

**Kevin L. Hoover**  
 MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – The OysterFest beer-broglio has either been resolved, or just gotten worse. But in any case, attendees at last weekend's 28th Annual Arcata Bay Oyster Festival had choice of delicious, thirst-slaking beers from three breweries – one hyperlocal, one regional and one regional/multinational.

First reported by John Ross Ferrara of the Lost Coast Outpost, Arcata Main Street had earned the enmity of local breweries by asking for their beer to be donated to this year's Arcata Bay Oyster Festival (of which the *Union* was a co-sponsor). The local brewers alleged that Arcata Main Street (AMS), which mounts the OysterFest, was using an offer of free beer by Petaluma-based Lagunitas Brewing Co. to leverage them into doing the same. AMS denies this.

According to AMS Executive Direc-

BEER ❖ A3



**GUZZLEICIOUS** The beer-troversy didn't noticeably impair OysterFest attendees' willingness to guzzle the frothy fluid, which was abundant at various booths.

KLH | UNION

## Cannabis for grown-ups coming to a shop near you

CITY OF ARCATA

ARCATA – The City of Arcata has adopted new standards regarding adult-use cannabis retail sales and services, which will take effect on Friday, July 6.

At the Arcata City Council meeting held on June 6, 2018, the City Council voted unanimously to adopt City Ordinance No. 1501, which amended zoning regulations pertaining to cannabis retail sales and services. These zoning changes are a result of new state laws legalizing recreational adult-use cannabis and community input provided over the past year.

The new ordinance allows retail cannabis sales and services in commercial and light industrial districts including downtown and central Arcata, Northtown, Valley West, the industrial areas of South G Street, the Creamery District, West End Road/Aldergrove and the neighborhood commercial areas.

Businesses primarily conducting cannabis retail sales and services are now required to re-

VILLAGE ❖ A5

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